

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 52 are currently pending, of which claims 1, 15, 21, 27, 40, 46, and 52 are independent. Claims 1, 2, 4, 11, 13, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 31, 35, 36, 40, 41, 46, 47, and 52 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of the action mailed November 3, 2006 are requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejections

Claims 1-15, 17-21, 23-40, 42-46, and 48-52 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,509,070 ("Schull").

Schull discloses a system for encouraging distribution, registration, and purchase of free copyable software and other digital information which is accessed on a user's system via a programmer's program. Schull's abstract describes the Schull system as follows:

Software tools which can be incorporated into a Programmer's Program allow the User to access Advanced Features of the Programmer's Program only in the presence of a valid Password which is unique to a particular Target ID generated on an ID-Target such as the User's system. Advanced features will thus re-lock if the Password is copied to another ID-target.

To generate a "valid Password," Schull states:

The ID must be generated in such a way that two ID-Targets will generate different IDs. Also, in order that a plurality of Licensed-features in a plurality of software programs be independently licensable on the same ID-Target, any two Licensed features must be able to generate different IDs even in conjunction with a single ID-Target. ... [In] one preferred embodiment, **each item of protected software is assigned an adequately unique P-digit Program ID, and each licensed Feature is assigned an F-digit Feature-ID, and each ID-Target can be associated with a T-digit Target-ID such as a serial number.** Once assigned (using methods described below) these ID numbers are combined in a fashion which preserves their uniqueness (e.g., by concatenating them to produce a number with N+M+T digits capable encoding $10^{(N+M+T)}$ values) and then using this combination, an encryption of it, or some other adequately-unique transform of it, as the ID. (col. 7, lines 10-27).

Nothing in Schull provides any disclosure of a password being explicitly related to a content. When a user attempts to use a locked advanced feature of a program on *any* content, the program checks for a valid feature-specific password. If the program locates the valid feature-specific password, the program unlocks that advanced feature and gives the user “full and unimpeded access” to that advanced feature. (col. 5, lines 44-47). Schull does not disclose a method for controlling capabilities of a user software application that includes “receiving *application rights information that is explicitly related to the received content*, the application rights information being operable to enable an operation of the one or more disabled operations to operate on the received content within a context specified in the application rights information,” as recited in claim 1.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 is allowable over Schull. Amended claim 27 has limitations corresponding to the limitations of claim 1 and is allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 15 recites a method for providing content to be operated on by a user software application that includes “generating application rights information that is explicitly related to the generated content, the application rights information being operable to enable an operation of the one or more disabled operations to operate on the generated content within a context specified in the application rights information.” For at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 15 is allowable over Schull. Amended claim 40 has limitations corresponding to the limitations of claim 15 and is allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 21 recites a method for providing a configurable, context-dependent user software application that includes providing a content generation tool operable to “generate application rights information that is explicitly related to the generated content, wherein the application rights information is operable to cause the user software application to enable an operation of the one or more disabled operations to operate on the generated content.” For at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 21 is allowable over Schull. Amended claim 46 has limitations corresponding to the limitations of claim 21 and is allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 52 recited a method for providing and using a configurable, context-dependent user software application that includes "generating application rights information that is explicitly related to the generated content, the application rights information being operable to enable an operation of the one or more disabled operations to operate on the generated content within a context specified in the application rights information." For at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 52 is allowable over Schull.

All of the dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons set forth with respect to the claims from which they depend.

Conclusion

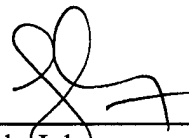
For the foregoing reasons, the applicant submits that all the claims are in condition for allowance.

By responding in the foregoing remarks only to particular positions taken by the examiner, the Applicants do not acquiesce with other positions that have not been explicitly addressed. In addition, the Applicants' arguments for the patentability of a claim should not be understood as implying that no other reasons for the patentability of that claim exist.

Enclosed is a \$120.00 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/3/06



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